

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF JULY 1ST, 1935.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board, in the Union Trust Building, Baltimore, on July 1st, 1935.

Present:

Harry W. Nice, Governor.

Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.

Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

The meeting was called at the instance of the Governor for the purpose of discussing steps to be taken in connection with conditions existing at the House of Reformation at Cheltenham, Prince George's County, Maryland, about which complaint was made to the Governor by the Grand Jury.

The Attorney General, the Honorable Herbert R. O'Connor, and the Assistant Attorney General, Hilary W. Gans, Esq., attended the meeting, so that the Board would have the benefit of advice from the State Law Department as to the legality of any steps which might be proposed in connection with the acquisition of the property of the Institution by the State.

Chapter 366 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, Session of 1935, was read and considered.

After reviewing conditions at the Institution as set forth in verbal complaint made by the Grand Jury to the Governor, the Board was of the opinion that it would first be necessary to call to the attention of the Board of Managers of the House of Reformation the provisions of Chapter 366 of the Acts of 1935, and to ask the Board whether it would be willing to proceed under the law and accomplish the transfer of the property of the Institution to the State.

The Board of Public Works, therefore, directed its Secretary to address a communication to the Board of Managers of the House of Reformation and advise them of the meeting of the Board of Public Works, and request the Institution to advise the State through the Board of Public Works at an early date whether the Institution would be willing to proceed under the law mentioned and accomplish the transfer of its property to the State as contemplated by Chapter 366 of the Acts of 1935.

The Board of Public Works decided to defer any action, pending receipt of reply from the Board of Managers of the Institution.

The Secretary quotes below the letter addressed by him to the Board of Managers of the House of Reformation, under date of July 2nd, 1935 in furtherance of the instructions of the Board as mentioned above.

July 2nd, 1935.

Board of Managers,
House of Reformation,
Cheltenham, Prince George's County,
Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

The Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland, at a meeting held on July 1st, 1935, directed me to write you and call your attention to Chapter 366 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, Session of 1935, being

"AN ACT to authorize the House of Reformation, a body politic and corporate, to transfer all of its property, real, personal, and mixed including all its rights, privileges, franchises and immunities, to the State of Maryland, and to authorize the Board of Public Works of the State to accept a deed therefor upon such terms and conditions as hereinafter set forth, to the end that said institution may become a State institution."

and to request that you advise the Board at an early date whether you are willing to proceed under the law mentioned and accomplish the transfer of your property to the State.

In the event your reply is in the affirmative, will you please submit with it a statement listing the property owned by you, showing the location, the number of acres of ground, the improvements, equipment, etc., and the valuation as carried on your books. Please, also, furnish a statement showing all mortgage liens and encumbrances against the institution. A copy of your latest financial statement would be helpful to the Board in its consideration of the matter.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. O'C. MC CUSKER.

Secretary,
Board of Public Works
of the State of Maryland.

JOMcC/E

copy to Robert F. Roberts, President,
4319 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Md.
copy to J. Enos Harlan, Vice-President,
Title Bldg., Baltimore, Md.
copy to John E. McCormick, Secy. & Treas.,
203 Vickers Bldg., Baltimore, Md.

The State Treasurer asked the Board for advice in connection with insurance on the Havre de Grace - Perryville Bridge, and for the information of the Board read the letter addressed to him under date of June 15th, by the Secretary of the State Roads Commission, and his reply under date of June 20th, both letters being quoted below for the record.

STATE ROADS COMMISSION

June 15, 1935.

Hon. Hooper S. Miles
State Treasurer
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. Miles:

At its meeting held on Wednesday afternoon, June 12th, the Commission, among other things, considered the fire and riot and civil commotion insurance carried on the Havre de Grace-Perryville Bridge, and took into consideration the present valuation of this structure and the possible hazards to which it may be subject.

These matters, after being carefully considered, on the unanimous vote of the Commission, it was ordered that a policy be written in the amount of \$500.00 for the term of one year from June 13, 1935. This order has been complied with. This policy will cover direct loss from damage caused by fire, lightning, floods, rising waters, ice, collision, explosion, strikes, riots, civil commotions, malicious damage, tornado, windstorm, earthquake, or collapse. The premium on this policy will amount to \$4.000 for twelve months' coverage.

In view of the action taken by this Commission I have been requested to ask that you surrender the three Fire and one Riot and Civil Commotion policies covering the Havre de Grace-Perryville Bridge for cancellation.

Very truly yours,

/s/ L. H. Steuart,
Secretary.

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June 20, 1935.

Mr. L. H. Steuart, Secretary,
State Roads Commission,
Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Steuart:

I have your letter of the 15th inst. advising me of the action of the State Roads Commission with respect to the fire, riot and civil commotion insurance on the Havre de Grace - Perryville Bridge.

I have very recently discussed fully with the broker of record on this risk the question of replacing the present policies with a combination full coverage policy similar to the one referred to in your letter and it was their opinion as well as mine, that the additional protection afforded by the combination policy was not sufficient to justify the additional cost. The present insurance costs \$2500.00 per annum while the policy proposed by your Commission will cost \$4,000.00 a year and in view of the past experiences with the bridge and the remoteness of damage by tornado, wind storm, earthquake, etc., I felt and still feel that the State is adequately protected and should incur no further expense for additional coverage. The present policies would, of course, have to be cancelled short rate at a loss to the State and as I derive my authority with respect to insuring the State properties from the Board of Public Works, I do not feel justified in cancelling the present policies unless directed to do so by them.

I will submit the matter to the Board of Public Works at their next meeting and, in the meantime, it would seem unnecessary to have two policies covering the same risk. I, therefore, suggest that the negotiations of your Commission for a new policy be suspended until I have an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Board of Public Works.

Very truly yours,

.s. Hooper S. Miles,

Treasurer of Maryland.

HSM/w

After due consideration the Board agreed that the State Treasurer should continue the coverage on the Havre-de Grace - Perryville Bridge, as set out in his letter of June 20th, to the State Roads Commission, and that the insurance mentioned in the letter of the State Roads Commission to the State Treasurer, under date of June 15th, should not be written because of the coverage carried by the State.

The State Treasurer took up with the Board the question of using funds available to the Board of Public Works for fire protection at State Institutions in connection with work at the Maryland State School for the Deaf, Frederick, Maryland. There is approximately \$15,000 in the Fund, and the School is anxious to use this money in eliminating fire hazards at the School, although the work will not involve the installation of a sprinkler system.

The Board was of the opinion that it would be entirely proper to use the funds for fire prevention measures, even though these measures would not include the installation of a sprinkler system, and the State Treasurer was authorized to confer with the officials of the

of the Institution, and secure estimates on work to be done which would eliminate some fire hazards which exist at the present time, and to report back to the Board at a later meeting.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board, correspondence which had passed between the Game Warden, the State Budget Director, Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, and the Governor, relative to the possibility of allowing the State Game Department some additional funds for operating purposes for the balance of the current fiscal year. In view of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund is entirely exhausted, and that it is not possible to make available to the State Game Department any funds under the excess fees section of the Budget, since there will be no excess fees arising in the State Game Protection Fund Account this fiscal year, the Board will be unable to give any assistance to the State Game Department.

The Secretary read a letter from Laurence Hall Fowler, Architect, in connection with the Hall of Records, as follows:

LAURENCE HALL FOWLER
ARCHITECT
347 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland.

June 27th, 1935.

Mr. Joseph McCusker,
Secretary, Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. McCusker,

Enclosed is the approved bill of John C. Knipp for extra desk in the Land Office.

When I went through the Building with Mr. Robertson,

the new archivist, he said there were several things he would like to have for his office, and that he would like to consult me about them, so they would be in harmony with the architectural treatment, when he took office. He mentioned a small stand-up desk, letter files, a case of drawers, and a rug. Are there any funds now available for these things, if so, I might get some estimates and have some of them ready for him in the fall.

There are also a few pieces of 'equipment' that it would be desirable to have: a sling psychrometer and thermometer for Mr. Kries to test the temperature, a special brush for cleaning Venetian blinds, and towel bars for the toilets: all would not cost over \$100.00.

I do hope next week will see the air conditioning system in working shape. We shall then want to see it running successfully for about ten days before issuing the certificate for the final payment.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Laurence H. Fowler.

The Board approved the bill of John C. Knipp & Sons, in the amount of \$175.00. The Board, however, was of the opinion that any recommendations for equipment or anything else which might be needed for the Hall of Records should come from the Hall of Records Commission.

A request from the Maryland Training School for Boys, for \$6,000.00, for maintenance purposes for the current fiscal year, was read and considered.

The Board decided it was unable to make any further funds available to the School, because of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund for the current fiscal year was already exhausted.

encl.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from the Treasurer of Baltimore County, advising that Avon Avenue Lot 139 escheated to the State upon the death of Evan Panekopski, who died intestate, without heirs or next of kin, and enclosing a bill in the amount of \$3.60 for water assessment under the Metropolitan District Act.

The Board decided to not pay the bill as they are not interested in the property, and because of the further fact that it

would almost be impossible to get any one to take title to the lot under the circumstances of its acquisition by the State.

The following letter of June 20th, from the Maryland Training School for Boys, was read and considered -

MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS

June 20, 1935.

Hon. Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., State Comptroller,
State House,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Gordy:-

Under date of May 8, 1935, we returned to the State Treasury from the Charles Cottage Fund an amount of \$501.70.

At the meeting of the Board of Managers on June 14th, the closing of the Charles Cottage program was duly reported and the amount of the balance returned to the State Treasury was presented. The Board directed me to write you asking your advice as to the possibility of having this money returned to the School for the purpose of reconditioning one of our green-houses which is in a badly depreciated condition. Roughly estimating it is believed that the reconditioning work involved can be completed for \$500.00.

Very truly yours,

/s/ James A. Pratt,
James A. Pratt,
Superintendent.

JAP/N

The Board approved the request.

The following letter dated June 11th, 1935 from Spring Grove State Hospital, was read and considered-

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL

June 11, 1935.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

My dear Mr. McCusker:-

Just recently we have had an offer to sell some walnut trees which will probably net the Hospital about one hundred fifty or two hundred dollars. We feel that these trees could be easily sold without detriment to the Hospital, and we are writing to ask that you allow us to use the proceeds for buying some furniture for our new auditorium.

Certain portions of the equipment have increased in value and this amount will probably about buy what we want without showing a deficit.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert E. Garrett,
Superintendent.

REG/RO

The Board approved the request.

The following letter from Mr. William H. Blakeman, State Budget Director, was read and considered -

STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR
2411 N. CHARLES ST.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

June 11, 1935.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

The financial situation at the Salisbury Normal School is one with which I feel you should be acquainted. This institution has for the budgetary year ending September 30, 1935, an allowance from General Funds of \$35,182. and an estimated special fund income of \$26,600, totalling \$61,782. The shortage in student receipts for the year is \$5,263.04, their receipts being \$21,336.96 against an estimate of \$26,000 and an actual income of \$24,265.97 in the year ending September 30, 1934. Due to changes in the head of the institution there, the matter of their financial condition seems to have been allowed to drift along without serious consideration until about May 1, when the new head of the institution, Dr. J. D. Blackwell began to take it under serious consideration.

I have been over the matter with him in detail and his latest statement is to the effect that he needs additional funds, to the amount of \$4,899.84. This sum is within the amount that their receipts have shrunk but gives an indication that they have not been cutting their pattern to suit their allotment, feeling that in all probability there were funds to fall back on in the possession of the Board of Public Works.

I have told Dr. Blackwell that there are no funds that I know of, but that I would present his case to the Board and if there is any way that the institution could be kept from showing a large deficit, I would ask the Board to give him consideration.. I feel that with drastic economies during the summer, their finances might be brought into balance with about \$3,500.

This situation is one that involves some questions of general policy on the part of the Board because with this institution running at about only 50 per cent of its capacity and the other institutions of its class being far from full, it is a condition, the cure for which is of rather deep significance and I lay it before you for your consideration.

Yours very truly,

/s/ W. H. Blakeman,

State Budget
Director.

WHB/GKO

In view of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund for the fiscal year 1935 has already been exhausted, the Board was unable to allow the Salisbury Normal School any additional funds for the current fiscal year.

7-1-35

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The following letter dated June 13th, 1935, was read and considered -

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL

June 13, 1935.

Mr. Joseph O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

My dear Sir:-

It is our desire to take out insurance to cover losses for money which has to be paid for our injured employees, for workmen's compensation.

In the last year the State had to pay claims amounting to approximately \$5,000.00 for an employee who was injured in the line of duty.

About two months ago one of our shift engineers was ruptured while lifting heavy pipe. However, he asked only for hospitalization and surgeon's fees. We had no funds from which to take this, but your Board did have the hospital bill cancelled.

I have written to Mr. James E. Jones, the Superintendent of the State Accident Fund, who informs me that for \$1,000.00 a year our entire personnel could be covered, and the Hospital protected from this loss.

Our Board of Managers have instructed me, therefore, to write you asking you to insert into our budget this amount, or arrange in some way to make this sum \$1,000.00 available for insurance. We believe this would be a great saving to the State.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Robert E. Garrett,

Superintendent.

REG/RO

In view of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund for the fiscal year 1935 has already been exhausted, the Board was unable to approve the request of Spring Grove State Hospital, because of not being able to make any funds available for the cost of the insurance.

The Secretary took up with the Board some correspondence from the Maryland Emergency Housing and Park Commission, in which it was requested that funds be made available for expenses of the Commission.

The Board failed to make any funds available because of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund for the fiscal year 1935 was already exhausted.

The Secretary presented a request from the State Accident Fund for authority to compromise a claim of the State Accident Fund against James M. Sinclair.

The Board approved the acceptance by the State Accident Fund of \$64.08 in full settlement of claim against Mr. Sinclair.

The Secretary took up with the Board the matter pending with the Consolidated Engineering Company on the subject of temporary heat furnished during construction of the Hall of Records during the winter of 1934-35.

The Secretary was instructed to contact the Consolidated Engineering Company with a view to getting an offer of settlement from that company.

The Secretary advised the Board of a file of correspondence accumulated in connection with the complaint made by Theodore H. Diener, as to the use of waterproofing materials used in construction of a new building at Springfield State Hospital.

The Board deferred any action in the matter until a later date.

The Secretary presented a bill from Doctor C. H. Beetem, dated June 1st, 1935, in the amount of \$13.00, for professional services rendered Mr. Harry Atzrodt, one of the Confederate Veterans, formerly at the Maryland Line Confederate Soldiers' Home, Pikesville, Maryland.

The Board authorized the payment of the bill out of any funds available in the appropriation for the maintenance of the Veterans formerly at the Institution, or out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works, in the event there were no funds available in the balance available for the weekly maintenance allowance for the Veterans.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Thomas H. Reynolds, R.D. No. 1., North East, Maryland, relative to the Japanese Beetle situation in Cecil County, and asked that funds be allowed for work of eliminating the Beetles.

The Board declined to make any funds available for the work, because of the fact that the Emergency Reserve Fund for the current fiscal year was already exhausted, and that there were no other sources from which funds could be made available to pay for the cost of the work.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter addressed to the Governor by Michael F. Freedman, Attorney, Baltimore, relative to an appropriation in favor of Mrs. Ida M. Broseker, widow of William H. Broseker, a former employee of Spring Grove State Hospital, and wanting to know if it would be possible for the Board of Public Works to find some way to make the appropriation available to Mrs. Broseker prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year on October 1st, 1935, in which Budget the appropriation is included.

The Board re-affirmed the position taken by it sometime ago that it would be impossible to anticipate payment of the appro-

priation even though it were possible for the State to settle the claim for an amount somewhat less than the amount appropriated.

The following letter from the State Accident Fund was read and considered.

STATE ACCIDENT FUND

May 21, 1935.

Board of Public Works
Union Trust Building
Baltimore, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

We respectfully request of you permission to charge the accounts listed below from our books for the following reasons:

Policy Number	Name	Address	Reason	Amount
4215	The Pharmacal Products Co. Easton, Md.		Hands of Receivers	
	Final Dividend paid	-----		\$315.59
1054 -	Henry Reckord, Towson, Md.	- In bankruptcy	- Final dividend	
	has been paid	-----		25.49
5420 -	Samuel Mervis Co. Inc. 22 N. Green St. Balto. Md.			
	Hands of Receivers - Final dividend has been paid	---		32.54
5754 -	Southern Maryland Construction Co., 20 E. Lexington St. Balto., Md.			
	- Hands of Receivers - Final Dividend has been paid	-		4.55
1225 -	David B. Gold, 606 W. Balto. St. Balto. Md.		- Considered	
	Uncollectible by our counsel	-----		5.12
2634 -	G. Dyke Co., 4208 Belview Ave. Balto. Md.		- Considered	
	uncollectible by our counsel	-----		1461.83
3126 -	Sanitary Steam Laundry Co., Easton, Md.		- Considered	
	uncollectible by our counsel	-----		29.20
4528 -	Oakland Hardware & Furniture Co., Oakland, Md.		- Considered	
	uncollectible by our counsel	-----		43.74
4845 -	Henry C. Klein & Co., 3511 Edmondson Ave., Baltimore, Md.		--	
	Considered uncollectible by our counsel	-----		36.25
4962 -	The Baltimore Hub-Wheel & Mfg. Co. Inc. 413-19 E. Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.		- Considered uncollectible by our	
	counsel	-----		29.97

5142 - Olen L. Miller, Grantsville, Md. - Considered uncollectible by	
our counsel - - - - -	43.61
	\$2,027.89

Very truly yours,

/s/ James E. Green, Jr.,
Superintendent.

JEG:VMD

The Board authorized the writing off of the accounts as uncollectible.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board an Actount passed by the General Assembly of 1935, known as Chapter 355, under which the Treasurer, or other authorized financial officer of every County, Municipality or Public Corporation, is requested to report the financial condition of such political units to the Board of Public Works.

The Secretary submitted a tentative form of report. The Board authorized the Secretary to prepare a form of report for the use of political subdivisions of the State in filing with the Board of Public Works the information required by Chapter 355 of the Acts of 1935; and to proceed with having the political subdivisions file the necessary reports.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Secretary.